

news

June 2020



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POSITIVITY AND KINDNESS

So, who knew Mrs Barnard had a castle? Well we all do now!

I cannot thank you enough for your positivity and kindness during this time which has tested us all.

We have received late, conflicting messages throughout this time and have tried to navigate through this by holding on to our positivity, values and principles.

Thank you for your understanding as start dates changed - I have been wanting to give you as much information as possible but I have also been conscious that we never had full information from the Government so the caveat was always 'this may change.'

Details were released on the Sunday of the bank holiday weekend that had huge implications for our planned start.

Still we face 'conflicting science' which does nothing to ease anyone's anxiety but I can honestly say that the staff at Polegate are amazing!

They are nothing but positive and always prioritise your children and the school. Their own situations are often challenging and we see staff having to send their children in as part of the key worker group in other schools but the timings do not necessarily coincide with our school times.

LATEST NEWS

How can it already be term 6?

This year has possibly been the most interesting and challenging yet! First building works, then Ofsted, and now Covid-19. We all really hope that we do all come back before the summer.

We miss the children so MUCH!

.....
For some really great news now that I am delighted to share...



Miss Ashdown

Miss Ashdown is expecting her first child and so will be starting her maternity at the end of September.

As a result, she has been shielding during this time and will not be returning when we welcome back other pupils this term. She has been working tirelessly from home supporting our SEND pupils in their return to school and liaising with parents to ensure we have all necessary arrangement in place.

Miss Everett is also expecting a new addition to her family and is also shielding.



Miss Everett

.....
**Learning
without
Limits**

Our staff model Learning without Limits all the time and Mrs Weyland has been doing some learning of her own over the last few years!

She has completed her degree and is about to embark on her teacher training next year with us! We are so pleased that we are able to support our staff in this way and nurture the exceptional talent we in school at all levels!



Mrs Weyland

Staffing Structure for 2020-2021

And so the moment you all eagerly await! I can now announce the teachers for next year. I am delighted to say that we are fully staffed and I had no last minute surprises this year! I don't think I could have coped with any more changes!

NEW	CURRENT	TEACHER	TEACHING ASSISTANT
R		Libby Hayes E: l.hayes@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Emma Hanmore
R		Victoria Miller E: v.miller@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Louise Belmore
R		Jenny Rawlinson E: j.rawlinson@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Leanne Coupe
1	RHI	Sarah Cullinane E: s.cullinane@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Sue Heather
1	RY	Sarah Baker E: s.baker@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Dominique MacNeill
1	RM	Karen Stockdale E: karen.stockdale@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Fiona Drury
2	1M	Clare Marsh - Leader of Learning YR 1 & 2 E: c.marsh@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Heidi Ireland
2	1H	Emma Murphy E: e.murphy@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Vanessa Brunger
2	1C	Mary McGovern E: m.mcGovern@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Jennie Everett
3	2AB	Hayley Giggs - Leader of Learning YR 3 & 4 E: h.giggs@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Aidan Keely Maxine Weyland Kayleigh Moore
3	2M	Amy Durbidge E: a.durbidge@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Emily Wren
3	2H	Cathy Young E: c.young@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Julie McFarlane
4	3W	Lewis Evans E: l.evans@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Corinne Williams
4	3D	Gayle Howland E: g.howland@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Sally Bennett
4	3M	Sally Barnard E: s.barnard@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk Leanne Dedman E: l.dedman@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Claire Walker
5	4B	Grace Tobin E: g.tobin@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Sophie Reynolds
5	4E	Ruby Murphy E: r.murphy@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Helen Timms
6	5J	Heidi Jabbari E: h.jabbari@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Sue Belk
6	5G	Amy Regan - Leader of Learning YR 5 & 6 E: a.regan@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk	Sarah Grace

Please bear in mind that new teachers will not be picking up emails routinely yet as they have not started.

We will obviously have to change our transition arrangements this year!

We will start this process now. I have been creative and tried to make the best of this current situation we find ourselves in. Where your child may not be with their existing class teacher I have tried to place them with staff they will be with next year!

There is always a great deal of thought that goes into all our planning and your children always lie at the heart of this. Part of this transition will give you the opportunity for a 'virtual meeting' with your child's next class teacher. We will update you with all the other transition arrangements.

THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Headteacher	Claire Martin-O'Donoghue	
Deputy Headteacher	Debbie Jones	
Assistant Headteacher	Sally Barnard	
Assistant Headteacher	Una Holbrook	Inclusion Manager
Nursery	Sharon Trent	EYFS leader Nursery team as existing
Leader of Learning	Clare Marsh	Year 1 and 2
Leader of Learning	Hayley Giggs	Year 3 and 4
Leader of Learning	Amy Regan	Year 5 and 6

TERM DATES FOR NEXT YEAR

In the event that you may be able to plan a holiday for next year I thought it would be helpful to give you the dates for next year now.

Wherever possible we have added INSET days onto holidays in the hope that you will benefit from cheaper prices and not take holidays in term time.

We will hopefully be back to 'normal' next year and that means I return to saying children should be in school everyday! That seems a strange and distant memory at the moment!

TERM	START DATE	END DATE
School INSET day	Thu 3rd September 2020	
School Term 1	Fri 4th September 2020	Fri 23rd October 2020
School INSET day	Mon 28th September 2020	
School INSET day	Mon 2nd November 2020	
School Term 2	Tue 3rd November 2020	Thu 17th December 2020
School INSET day	Fri 18th December 2020	
School Term 3	Mon 4th January 2021	Fri 12th February 2021
School Term 4	Mon 22nd February 2021	Wed 30th March 2021
School INSET day	Thu 1st April 2021	
School Term 5	Mon 19th April 2021	Fri 28th May 2021
School Term 5	Mon 7th June 2021	Fri 23rd July 2021

WAITROSE COLLECTION

Thank you Mrs Botting for putting our next project forward for some funding from Waitrose.

We are developing a computer suite in a spare classroom to benefit all children.



CHAPERONES

We have been incredibly grateful to our dedicated team of chaperones that we can call upon to support with school trips and events.

You have been amazing and it has been such a bonus and really reassuring for teachers to know you have been fully trained, have a DBS and understand the expectations regarding safeguarding on trips.

We are currently updating our list ready for next year. If you haven't been able to help as much as you would like and no longer want to be on the list please just let us know and we will remove you so that we do not keep hounding you!

If you would like to remain a chaperone then we would like to invite you to refresher training on Thursday 18th July at 2pm this is to ensure you remain up to date on policies and procedures.

I would like to become a chaperone

If you would like to join our list of chaperones then please complete the form below and keep Thursday 18th July free to attend the training. You are then invited to support events such as Race for Life or school trips for any class in the school.

Name:.....

Child's name:.....

Class:.....

You will need to come in and liaise with Kerry in order that we can ensure you have a DBS.

VIRTUAL SPORTS WEEK

Your sporting activities inundated Twitter and made me feel very guilty on my more lazy days during our virtual Sports Week.

Thank you to Mrs Murphy for organising this. There were lots of long family bike rides and even swimming in the sea.

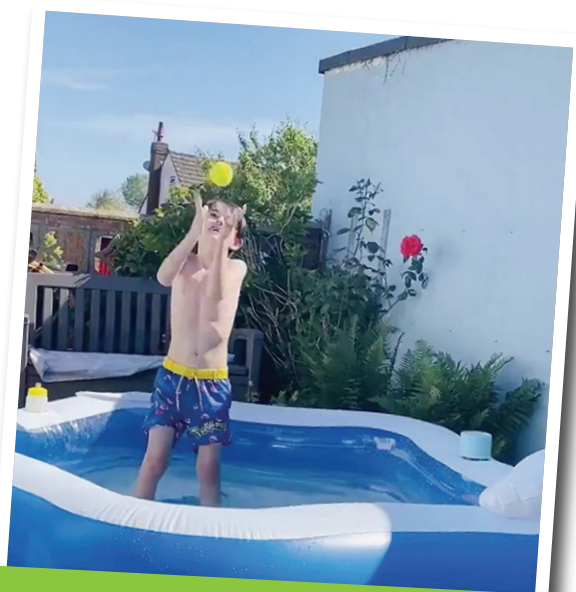
Thank you for embracing all our activities even though we are not in school together at this time.



Virtual Sports Day!
Go Team Hercules!



Keira's long jump!
Daddy took this seriously and
got the tape measure out



Do we get extra points for
doing the sports week
challenges in paddling pools?!

LEAVER'S HOODIES 2020

Now this news will please Year 6 who have been desperate to get their hands on these!

We can now share that the Leaver's hoodies are available to purchase online at:

www.leaverswear.com/polegate
There are several options to choose from.

Orders must be placed by Midnight Sunday 28th June. Late orders may incur extra charges. Order to be delivered approx 7-10 days after the deadline.

We will let them wear these hoodies in the last week of term and if it remains as hot as this then you will have to peel it off them at the end of each day!



UNIFORM IS GOING ONLINE!

If you are thinking ahead to September already then all uniform purchases must be made online via the Price and Buckland website. We no longer have uniform in school.

We will be also selling tracksuits, waterproof jackets, shorts and skorts for PE, in addition to the usual items online.



E-SAFETY UPDATES

What do parental controls do?

These controls are designed to help parents and carers manage their child's online activities.

There are various types, some of which are free but others which can be bought. However, nothing is totally fool proof so they don't replace the need for adults to support and advise children using the internet.

For detailed guidance on all the different types of control, you can use this online tool from Internet Matters. This gives you the chance to set up a personalised list of the controls used in your home on all your different devices. There is also advice on how to use all the various controls, with videos and step-by-step instructions.

Thinkuknow.co.uk

Children are accessing technology and the internet at a younger age than ever before. It's never too early to talk to your child about what they do online and who to tell if they come across anything online that makes them feel worried, scared or sad.

Jessie & Friends is a series of three animations that follow the adventures of Jessie, Tia and Mo as they begin to navigate the online world, watching videos, sharing pictures and playing games. There's also a storybook for each episode, to help you and your child keep the conversation going

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends/>

The key message throughout Jessie and Friends is that if a child is ever worried by anything online, they should tell a grown-up they trust, who will help them.

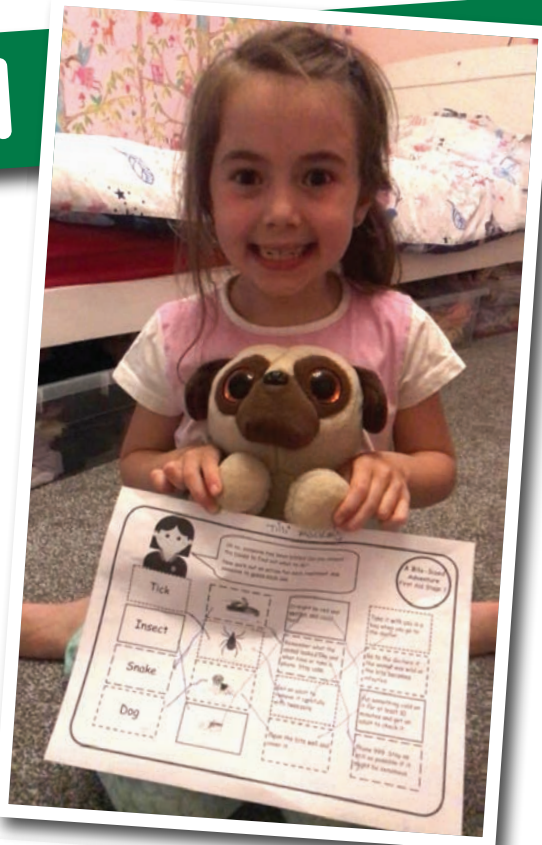
Seeking support for yourself

Whatever your situation it is likely that you will need support for yourself, as well as for your child. Talk to a friend or relative who you trust, who will listen and support you, or call the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000.

WELL DONE TILLI

Tilli has benn working extra hard during lock down as is very proud to share here achievements with you.

She has achieved her Bronze Award at Rainbows. She therefore gains the Pink Express Myself Theme Award.



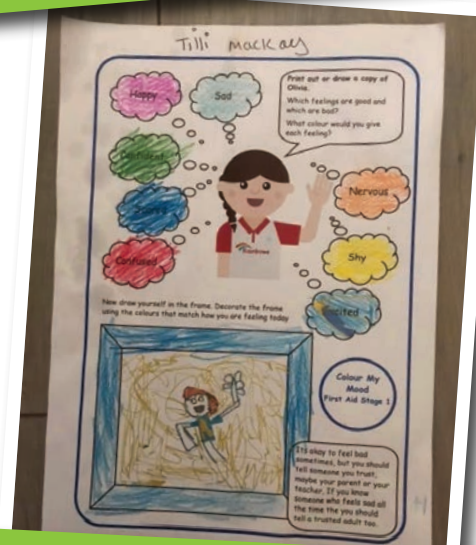
An amazing experiment to show how important it is to wash your hands to kill germs



Mend a friend - Tilli has been taking her baby's temperature, treated a graze on her bears arm.



Tilli has gained her Animal Lover and Fruit and Veg Badges.



Colour my mood

SUPPORT & RESOURCES

Chat Health

Is a Messaging Service run by the School Health Service which gives students access to confidential health advice via text message. **Text Chat Health on 07507332473** for advice on anything to do with your health and wellbeing.

E-motion

A free and confidential counselling by email, live messaging or phone. It is for 12 to 18 year olds in East Sussex. **www.e-emotion.org.uk**

Childline

Gives confidential advice to under-19s.
0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk

Mental Health

Samaritans 08455790909 and 116 123

Sussex Mental Health 0300 5000101

Mind Advise national Health in Mind

0300 0030130 Spnt: healthinmind@nhs.net

Contact GP

Wellbeing centres 16yrs+

Southdowns Wellbeing centres

Bexhill 01424 215548 Eastbourne 01323 405330

Peer support service 01323 405335

1Space Southdown peer support service

Bexhill Emergency Action Team (BEAT)

Facebook group offering practical and emergency support to vulnerable people in Bexhill

Eastbourne Volunteers

Telephone befriending service for people who are self-isolating – **eastbournevolunteers@gmail.com**

Family Lockdown tips and ideas

Facebook group with tips on entertaining the family whilst self-isolating

ELSA website - www.elsa-support.co.uk

Various resources re emotional well-being, lots are free to download. Several free coronavirus leaflets explaining about school being closed, handwashing etc

Foodbank

Eastbourne Foodbank is still operating as normal for food parcels, but no face-to-face welfare benefits advice. A phone line is operating instead Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday afternoon between 2:00 & 4:00pm

Call 01323 409925

Financial advice

Some info and links on benefits and sick pay on CAB website
<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/health/coronavirus-what-it-means-for-you/>

Domestic abuse

National Domestic Abuse Helpline 08082000247

Women's Aid

By their Live chat, email and forum support:

www.womensaid.org.uk/information-support/

Make safety plan and practice escape with children safely.

www.womensaid.org.uk/the-survivors-handbook/making-a-safety-plan/

Contact a member or our team by using the secret message function on Facebook messenger:

www.fb.com/wearethemotherload

Understand what domestic abuse is:

www.womensaid.org.uk/information-support/what-is-domestic-abuse/

How to spot it:

www.victimsupport.org.uk/crime-info/types-crime/domestic-abuse/recognising-signs-domestic-abuse

HELP FROM ENERGY SUPPLIERS

We advise you speak to your provider for emergency support

www.moneysavingexpert.com

British Gas	03332029802
EDF	03332005100
E.on	0345052000
Npower	08000733000
Scottish Power	08000270072
SSE	03450262658
Bulb	03003030635
Co op Energy	08000937547

E Energy	03331039575
Green Network Energy	08005200202
Green Star Energy	08000124510
Omni Energy	01134573219
Ovo (2)	03301027517
Robin Hood Energy	08000304567
Utilita	03452072000
The utility warehouse	0333 7770777
SPOA	01323 464222

Crisp packet recycling

Please take your empty crisp packets to the school office



WE NOW RECYCLE BATTERIES

We have small recycling battery boxes in the office.



Congress Show

This event has been cancelled but we are in the process of rebooking it for next year!
Something to look forward to!

Archive



You can read all the previous newsletters on our website.

Twitter

Be the first to hear the news.
Follow us on Twitter.
We now have 1110 followers!



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Polegate
East Sussex BN26 6PT
Tel: 01323 482404
Email: info@polegateschool.co.uk



Feedback

We'd love to hear your feedback and any new ideas you have. Please send us your thoughts via the contact us page on the school website:

www.polegateschool.co.uk